

## Congressman Jason Lewis & the 115th Congress: Supporting the Israeli/U.S. Relationship

## **Holding Iran Accountable**

The Congressman is a cosponsor of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Economic Exclusion Act

The Congressman also supported the passage of the following bills to increase pressure on Iran for their support of terrorism and destabilizing actions in the region.

- Iran Ballistic Missiles and International Sanctions Enforcement Act requires the President to impose sanctions on foreign persons and entities involved with Iran's ballistic missile program and those who provide or receive conventional weapons from Iran.
- Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act requires the Department of Treasury to provide a report to help further efforts to prevent the financing ofterrorism, money laundering, or related illicit finance and to help clarify for financial institutions and legitimate businesses ways they can comply with remaining sanctions.
- The Strengthening Oversight of Iran's Access to Finance Act would require the Department of the Treasury to submit a report to Congress regarding financial transactions authorized in connection with commercial passenger aircraft sales to Iran.

# **Supporting U.S. and Israel National Security**

The Congressman has stood with our strongest ally in the Middle East, Israel, by supporting joint defense efforts and the ability of Israel to defend themselves against security threats.

• The FY2019 National Defense Authorization Act signed supports Israel's missile defense and includes \$500 million for the Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow. The Congressman was a member of this NDAA's Conference Committee and was influential in resolving the differences between the House and Senate version. It was signed into law in August 2018.

The Congressman also supported legislative efforts that passed the house and supported the Israel U.S. relationship.

• The United States and Israel Space Cooperation Act would direct NASA to continue to partner with the Israel Space Agency (ISA) in identifying and pursuing space exploration initiatives of mutual interest. NASA and ISA first entered into an agreement outlining mutual interests in 1996.

H.Con.Res.92 recognizes the deep and abiding friendship between the United States and Israel.

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# Standing for Israel in the International Stage

The Congressman believes that we must stand up for Israel in the international community, and has supported legislation that passed the House including:

- *H. Res. 11* Objecting to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 as an obstacle to Israeli-Palestinian peace
  - o On December 23, 2016 the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 2334 by a vote of 14-0. The United States abstained. The resolution states that Israel's settlement activity constitutes a "flagrant violation" of international law and has "no legal validity." Further, it demanded Israel stop such activity and fulfill its obligations as an occupying power under the Fourth Geneva Convention.
  - O H. Res. 11 states that the Obama Administration failed to uphold longstanding U.S. policy to oppose and veto any one-sided and anti-Israel resolutions at the UN Security Council. States the U.S. should oppose any anti-Israel resolutions or efforts that impose solutions or parameters for an agreement to the conflict. Reaffirms t e longstanding and bipartisan position in support of direct bilateral negotiations as the only way to reach a sustainable peace agreement. Calls for UN Security Council Resolution 2334 to be repealed or fundamentally altered so that it is no longer anti-Israel and it allows final status issues for a two-state solution to be resolved through direct bilateral negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians
- H. Res. 359 expresses appreciation to the European Union (EU) for progress since designating Hizballah's military wing as a terrorist organization; supports increased U.S.-EU cooperation in thwarting Hizballah's criminal and terrorist activities; supports cooperation between European police and security services in combating terrorism; encourages the EU to implement sanctions against Hizballah-affiliated terrorist in tandem with the U.S.; and urges the EU to designate the Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and increase pressure on the group.

#### Addresses the Palestinian Authority & Hezbollah

- The Sanctioning Hizballah's Illicit Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act mandates that the President identify and impose sanctions on foreign persons or entities affiliated with Hizballah who are responsible for violations of human rights due to their use of civilians as human shields, or have provided, tried to provide, or facilitated the provision of material support to that terrorist group.
- The Hizballah International Financing Prevention Amendments Act of 2017 amends and



strengthens the *Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015*. Specifically, the bill requires the President to impose sanctions on foreign persons who provide significant support to Hizballah's fundraising and recruitment efforts; to impose sanctions on agencies of foreign governments that provide financial support and arms, including stiffer sanctions for designated state-sponsors of terrorism; and calls for sanctions on financial intuitions that serve Lebanese officials affiliated with Hizballah.

• The Taylor Force Act would make certain foreign assistance for the Palestinian Authority (PA) dependent on certifications by the Secretary of State that the PA has ended payments to individuals who commit terrorist acts against Israeli and U.S. citizens and taken other steps to reduce violence. If the department cannot certify, the withheld funds would remain available for obligation for an additional two years and becomes for other use.



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